A NEW CUPOLA AND OTHER ARCHITECT-URAL ADORNMENTS TO BE ADDED.

HOW THE WORK IS PROCEEDING-A FIREPROOF

STRUCTURE DESIGNED-REMODELLING OF THE ROTUNDA CONTEMPLATED- NEW

ELEVATOR AND STAIRCASES.

About a year ago the cupola of the Brooklyn City Hall was burned and an appropriation was then phtained for its restoration and for other work that was regarded as necessary. A competition was held, which Mr. Hunt, Professor Hamlin and Mr. Morse acted as expert advisers. Their unanimous election was the design of a cupola, somewhat imilar in character to the old one, prepared by lincent C. Griffith and C. W. and A. A. Stoughton, of No. 96 Fifth-ave., New-York. They selected that as the most suitable both by association with the old work and typical of a city hall, especially con-sidering that the building is low and flat, requiring an elevated crowning feature, and that the courthouse behind it has a dome, with which a dome the City Hall would unavoidably compete in its

The work was considerably delayed in its begin



# For Easter.

SELECTIONS FROM THE MAIL.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE CINCINNATI. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS OF A CORRESPONDENT REGARDING ITS CONDITIONS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I beg to ask for an item of information, which (as we look to your newspaper as the first and best authority in all Revolutionary matters) perhaps

you alone can supply, viz.: It has been generally understood that membership in the Society of the Cincinnati was limited to the lineal male descendant, in each generation, of a field officer (that is, an officer beyond the commission of captain) who served three years or more n the field, within the era of the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783. I desire to ask your courteous information as to whether this inflexible (as I under-

stood) rule has been abrogated in later years. The moving inducement pressing me to address this, perhaps intrusive, letter to you is the fact the secretary-general of the Cincinnati is, according to the records, one Asa Bird Gardiner. The Society of the Cincinnati prints no lists or year

further to impress the character of his eminent services upon the mind of the people by rising superior to the bosses and driving them like so many infesting rodents out of the precincts of the Executive Chamber at Albany, and if he should thus show his independence of the bosses he would round out a grand career, which would be known and extolled by every schoolboy for generations to come.

Lenox, Mass., Feb. 29, 1896.

POSITIVE RANK FOR NAVAL ENGINEERS. REASONS WHY THEY ARE DESERVING OF THE FULLEST RECOGNITION AT THE HANDS OF CONGRESS.

To the Editor of The Tribune Sir: Senate bill No. 725 (H. R. No. 3,618), for the reorgan zation of the Engineer Corps of the Navy, provides in Section 1 that naval engineers shall have various ranks, of the same name and grade as in the line of the Navy, instead of the so-called "relative" rank which they now hold. The reasons why the proposed changes should be made are briefly as

The modern warship is a steel structure, filled with machinery from stem to stern, and the engineer force may now in numbers be nearly one-half entire ship's company. The absolutely vital importance of this machinery, and the necessity of its being maintained in a condition of the highest efficiency, render suicidal to the best interests of the naval service any system of rank and position which in any way interferes with the efficient organization and control of this body of men. That the present system does so interfere will be evident to any one who will take the trouble to

xamine the question. In time of battle the engineer force is called on to work below decks, frequently shut up in hermetically scaled compartments, and in absolute ignorance of what is going on above, uncertain uncertainty and ignorance give rise to an intense nervous strain, and to hold men under such conditions under proper subjection, and maintain them in a state of good working efficiency, is a task than which none coming within the whole range of ship discipline and organization can be more severe. The engineers of the Navy ask for the this bill, as an aid in carrying out this task.

rone. We are in a new age of naval architecture, satisfactory and suitable under the conditions existing forty or fifty years ago is certain to be now new Navy is in large measure due to the work of the haval engineers, and no class of men is more concerned with the success of future efforts or more anxious to maintain the ships already built in the condition of highest efficiency. The present system with modern ships may be said to have been on trial about ten years, and has in that time entirely demonstrated its unsultability. It is the deliberate belief of the members of the corps that these changes in organization will aid greatly in improving the efficiency of our ships as lighting machines. They seek in no wise to command the ship, but simply under a new form of organization a more clearly defined position in their own corps and in the naval service at large. The opinion of these officers, carefully formed, with a full knowledge of the conditions to be met, must not be set lightly aside.

knowledge of the conditions to be met, must not be set lightly aside.

Again, the names captain, commander and lieutenant have no etymological or literal reference to the duties of the officers who now bear these titles, and there is no reason why these names should not be extended to the officers of the engineer corps, with the mame of the corps added to distinguish the branch of the service to which they belong. This is the system in use in the Army, where the conditions are quite analogous, and it has been found to work admirably. Rank and title are essential features of military organization, and no one would now think of denying that the engineer and his division constitute an integral part of the general military organization of a modern warship. In so far as the promotion to the various grades and titles may be considered as a reward for faithful service or distinguished bravery in time of danger, surely all participation should not be denied the engineer. The dangers to which he is exposed are in no wise less serious or less trying then in the case of the deck officer, and he is surely equally worthy of reward.

Again, as a final, but by no means the least of the various reasons, it should be borne in mind that the engineers are contained.

lating to the payal engineer, his work, and his importance as a factor in modern mayal warfare. With this in mind, let an attempt be made to read the probable trend of affairs in the near future. The conclusion is inevitable that the ciaims of the naval engineer to the recognition which he seeks cannot long be postponed. There is no time better than the present. Their request is reasonable, it is just, it is in the spirit of the age and in the interest of better efficiency.

W. F. DURAND, Professor of Marine Engineering, Cornell University.

Ithaca, N. Y., Feb. 28, 1896.

of her grandfather's estate, to which she became enestablished her innocence of the charge of murder. ing her mother, Mrs. Bliss, who died under sus-picious circumstances about six months since. The Supreme Court by the remote heirs of Mrs. Riss to wrest from Mrs. Fleming the sum of \$80,000 due her from the estate of her father, Robert Swift Livingston, on the death of her mother.

cided is sound, its consequences, when carried out to their fullest extent, would be most disastrous. Mrs. Fleming is at present in prison, under indictment charging her with the murder of her mother by polson. She has not been tried, but is simply kept imprisoned awaiting trial. Not having been convicted, she is entitled to the benefit of the timehonored presumption of universal application that every person is presumed to be innocent of a crime

tioned by the courts of all enlightened communities than this, and it is not too much to assert that it authority entitled to weight.

the law as stated, for he holds that Mrs. Fleming, having been charged with the crime of murder, must prove her innocence before she can come into possession of her inheritance, to which it is conceeded she is absolutely entitled.

The referee's decision is based on the case of

Riggs vs. Palmer, decided in the Court of Appeals

at the time sixteen years of age, had been made the residuary legatee in the will of his grandfather, Francis B. Palmer, and in order to obtain speedy possession of his property poisoned his grandfather, Elmer was subsequently convicted of murder in the second degree, and sentenced to

Mrs. Riggs and Mrs. Preston, daughters and heirs-at-law of the grandfather, brought suit to set aside that provision of the grandfather's will devising any part of the property to Elmer Palmer, claiming he ought not to benefit by his own wrong, and obtain an inheritance through the instrumen-

Mrs. Riggs and Mrs. Preston, and decided that it never could have been the intention of the lawmakers "that a donee, who murdered the testator to make the will operative, should have any benefit under it," and that "no one shall be permitted to profit by his own fraud, or to take advantage of own iniquity, or to acquire property by his own

A similar result was reached in the Armstrons where it was said that "it would be a reproach to the jurisprudence of the country, if one could recover insurance money payable on the death of a party whose life he had feloniously taken. As well

party whose life he had feloniously taken. As well might he recover insurance money on a building that he had wilfully lired."

In that case, Armstrong, to whom the policy was payable, had been tried for the murder and convicted. This decision of Riggs vs. Palmer is said to have been frequently questioned by legal writers of other States, but it stands to-day unchallenged as the law of this State.

In some of the earlier cases in the Court of Appeals the admission of evidence that a person had been arrested or indicted for crime was sustained to prove his character and impair his credit as a witness and general reputation. But in the later decisions a more reasonable rule has been adopted, and it is now the law that "mere charges or accusations, or even indictments, may not be so inquired into since they are consistent with innocence, and may exist without moral deliquency," and that the fact of an indictment could not produce such result, since it was merely an accusation, and innocence was presumed. Also that "it does not prove that a witness has been sulity of a crime to prove that he has been arrested upon the charge of a crime or that he has been indicted for a crime."

But the law as stated does not apply to Mrs. Fleming's case. She has not been convicted, and until she has been found guility, is entitled to the

presumption of innocence and enjoyment of her property the same as any other citizen.

The fact that she had been charged with the murder of her mother, could not be used as evidence against her in any other action, civil or criminal, for, though so charged, she might never be tried nor convicted.

If Referee Godkin's decision is sound in principle it amounts to a substantial confiscation of Mrs. Fleming's property, at least, until she can prove her innocence, and, as a logical conclusion, the courts would have a right to take away her other property, however acquired, and keep it until she had overcome the presumption of guilt established by the referre's decision.

Such a result is too monstrous to contemplate, and it is to be hoped that the courts will speedlity right the wrong done to Mrs. Fleming by the referre's decision, and give to her the inheritance to which she is justly entitled without further delay.

Ead as would be the results of awarding her a bequest, to which, on conviction of the murder of her mother, it may appear she had no right, the consequences of denying to innocent persons the use and benefit of their property because they have been charged with crime is infinitely worse.

New-York, March 7, 1835.

H. H. W.

DR. JAMESON AND THE BOERS WHY THE LONDONERS ARE SO ENTHUSIASTIC

Sir: Probably but few Americans understand the true reason for the enthusiasm exhibited by Londeners toward Dr. Jameson, whom they look upor not as a marauding filibuster, but as a hero ben on righting the wrongs of his fellow-countrymer the sons and brothers and friends of the men who have so loudly applauded him. But not only this they feel that he did his best to avenge those Engen who were done to death in so dastardly

way in the late Boer war. One has only to read Rider Haggard's "Jess, which, like his other romances, is as scrupulously correct in local coloring as exciting in the story, to know what that war was like. A few weeks ago long article in The Tribune pointed out with what savage cruelty the Boers are wont to wage war with the natives, but here the atrocities were perpetrated on Englishmen. Assassination and firing on a flag o

on Englishmen. Assassination and firing on a flag of truce were among the incidents of this barbarous contest. Of Bronker's Spruit Haggard says, "The tale of treachery and wholesale massacre, which was," as he said, "without a parallel in the annals of civilized war," and remembering this and Majuba Hill, it is probable that most Englishmen outside the Liberal party and some of those within it felt a pang of regret on finding that Gladstone would do nothing to averge the treacherously slain.

But that war—bad as it was—was only of a plece with the character the Boers had exhibited for years. Stanley in his interesting article on the development of Africa in the February "Century" recalls their treatment of Livingstone when a missionary at Kolobeng. "He accused the Boer farmers of crucity to the natives, and they resented his intereference and threatened to drive him out of the country. He published their misdeeds in the Cape newspapers, and in revenge for his strictures they set fire to his house and burned him out. This first induced Livingstone to travel to the north, in hope of finding a country where he could follow to nearly and where the Cape Rew. Japaneth Cape Cape Rew. Japaneth Cape Rew

New-York, March 3, 1896.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: If the Venezuelan incident has only the effec of directing attention to our coast defences, or lack of them, and awakening the dormant patriotism of our people, it will have been worth all that it has While no same man wishes our country to

with fortifications, extending from Halifax on the north to St. Lucia on the south, the latter recently besides, added to and strengthened the

other country" in making these warlike preparations in time of peace? To my mind, it shows that

for years it has been the settled plan of England to build these fortresses solely with reference to a possible war with her "dear kindred" on this side the water. They are and have been to us a constant menace, showing as they do England's attitude of hostility toward this country. If Fengland should graciously permit us to build the Nicaragna cland she could at will shut us off from the entraince at this end. I am not an alarmist, but let us not deceive ourselves. Who believes that but for the, to us, opportune South Affican imbraglio, and the threatened conflict with Germany, we should now see a fair prospect of an arbitration of the Venezuelan dispute with England?

As I read history, the English Government, or the governing class of England, have always been unfriendly to this country. Not counting Mexico, she is the only nation with which we have ever been at war. Considering the outcome of our conflicts with her, it is, perhaps only natural that she should dislike us. Ancient history? Well, was not her treatment of us during our Civil War only such as might have been expected from a bitter enemy? She thought that our extremity was her opportunity, and she will never forgive us for preserving our Union when she confidently hoped, and expected, it would be broken up. We have no interests that are identical with those of England; in fact, all of our interests are diametrically opposed to hers. Now to the point, while our legislators at Washington are talking about expending 180,000,000 in eight years on our coast defences, I read in The Tribune that the English Perliament has appropriated \$01,000,000 to add seventy or eighty new vessels of various grades to her already stupendous navai fleet. Great heavens! Can an American Congress long debate a question of appropriating money in defence of the life of the Nation? H. W. M. Brookiya, March 2, 1896.

DANGERS OF CODDLING MINORITIES.

action of the Republican party in giving communities that were and are little more than mining camps and cattle ranches the dignity and power n National councils of sovereign States. The acpreventing the passage of a revenue bill which the experience of the last two years shows to be urgently needed, demonstrates that the insignificant silver seriously imperil the industries of the Nation. The Republican party coddled these interests in much the same manner as the Democrats coddled the stave power. In each case a minority obtained infinitely more consideration than its stake in the Na tion warranted, and in each instance, likea spoiled

child, when no longer induiged, flies in the faces of those who would no longer coddle it.

The one threatened political disruption, the other financial ruin. The one had to have its senses knocked into it at the point of the bayonet. It is possible that the other may involve itself in a somewhat similar experience. History is repeating itself. Democratic coddling brought trouble, and it cost the Nation fearfully to extricate itself. Republican coddling has brought serious trouble, from which the country is not yet extricated. We are loaded down with flat sliver "dollars," and are threatened with industrial paralysis if a policy leading to financial ruin is not consented to.

All this is at the dictation of communities that do not equal all told the number of people dwelling within the limits of the cities of New-York and Brooklyn, and do not possess one fiftieth part of the wealth nor contribute one-fiftieth as much toward the expense of conducting the Nation's affairs. With slavery it was rule or ruin; with sliver it is rule or ruin. Both are the result of giving minorities political power out of all proportion to their numbers and interest in the Nation.

CLEMENT WARREN.

Sir: The news you publish this morning that the Spaniards in Cientuegos, Cuba, have decided to stop all orders for merchandise in the United States, and to have no dealings in a business way with North Americans, is supremely amusing, and upon his return to England from an extended visit in the latter country every other individual, with scarcely an exception, was a Don Quixoie, and the rest Sancho Panzas. This was certainly high tribute from such a source to Cervantes's cleverness and power of observation of the true characteristics of his own people, and the step which the Spaniards of Clenfuegos are reported to have de-

To begin with, I have never known a Spanish merchant, be he located in Cuba or in his own merchant, he he located in cuba or in his own country, to buy any merchandles from this coun-try when he could obtain it at the same price in the European markets. This is a well-known fact to those familiar with our export trade to Cuba. The Spaniards are compelled by necessity to pur-chase American provisions and building materials in the United States, because they are cheaper

SOUT Is not a new disorder, but it is better understood since its invasion of the homes of epicures has become so universal. It is not confined to the feet. Physicians now recognize a "masked gout" that may produce disorder in any part of the body. Of the use of

# LONDONDOPTULLITHIA

in these cases of general Uric Acid poisoning, Dr. Bache McKee Emmet of New York, writing in "Clinical Gynecology," a standard medical work, says: "Excess of Uric Acid in the system, the most common abnormality, has a decidedly pernicious effect upon the system. Best results are obtained by watching the diet improving the digestion and insisting upon suitable exercise In addition, the skin must be roused to action and the kidneys flushed by the drinking of the 'Londonderry' Water."

Our pamphlets contain hundreds of similar indorsements Write for them.

Every hotel and club in America uses SPARKLING "LONDONDERRY." It has also been in daily use in every hotel and for many years.

IN PINTS, QUARTS AND HALF-GALLONS. NO PHIALS.

# NEW YORK OFFICE, 253 BROADWAY,

here, and the majority of them cannot be obtained from any other country without paying immensely higher prices and getting in the end, probably through second and third hands, the same American flour, lard, pork, etc. The advertised boycott is simply the worst sort of bluff and humbug and only intended as a threat, which the Spaniards in their fifteenth century ignorance imagine viil be productive of fear in the minds of our merchants and will work wonders toward allaying the noble sympathies of the people of the United States for the Cubans, who have suffered for so many years all that Spanish tyranny, corruption and misrule imply.

all that Spanish tyranny, coropton imply.

The threat is doubly amusing, as all credits in our trade with Cuba, whether imports or exports, ormanate from the merchants in this country. Consequently, when the Spanish merchants of Cuba attempt to boycott the merchants of this country, it can be readily seen that the "boot is on the other leg."

EXPERIENCE.

ILLITERATE VOTERS AT THE POLLS. THE PROVISION IN THE LAW FOR THEIR AS-

BALLOT VIOLATED.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Your paper is the advocate of the best principals of Americanism, and it consequently rethe best class of Americans. For these reasons the following is sent to The Tribune:

Action has been brought to determine as to whether that provision of the Election law which authorizes inspectors to assist illiterate voters at the polls is or is not Constitutional. The courts will determine this question, but it rests with the people to determine as to the right or wrong of such a law and to say whether it shall be allowed to stand or be repealed. Why should the State declare in its Constitution that the "secrecy of the allot shall be preserved" and then make special the illiterate contrary to such secrecy"? Is not this to put a premium on ignorance? The case of a man physically disabled is radically different. Such should be allowed assistance, even if a proviso in the Constitution to that effect is required.

Is the privilege of franchise so valueless that every ignoramus may freely exercise it? Is American citizenship so cheap that every naturalized foreigner who cannot read or write our language may have the same voice at the polls as we, whose fathers have lived and died here and who have been educated in our public schools, sustained by public taxes? I say every foreigner advisedly, for who but a foreigner could live in this land of free schools and still be unable to read and write? If such there be, by what principle of equity does he claim the right of suffrage? And even the foreigner who cannot in five years acquire the knowledge possessed by a little American child is unfit to enjoy political privileges in any country. His naturalization was an insult to American citizens ship. And yet such have been made citizens of this Republic at the rate of one every two or three minutes all day long by our judges, Judges whose chief qualification for their positions was their political "pulis."

Twice St. Paul boasted that he was a Roman citizen. That claim was heard by the Magistrates in two distant cities, Philipsi and Jerusalem, with respect and deterence. New-York is more illustrious than was the City of Tiber, and the metropolis of a more spiendid empire. But only by maintaining a high standard of citizenship may we feel that it is more honorable to say now "I am an American" than it was of old to even say "I am a Roman."

Tammany Hall approves the existing law, an almost sure sign of its character. For Tammany been educated in our public schools, sustained by

American" than it was of old to even say I am a Roman."

Tammany Hall approves the existing law, an almost sure sign of its character. For Tammany Hall is persontiled political depravity, the incarnation of political prostitution.

Some of our representatives in the National Legislature believe this country needs a foreign war. Washington has always been well supplied with fools, both great and small. We need no foreign war, but rather a civil war, vigorous and unremitting, against those internal forces which degrade citizens and citizenship, and have contributed to elevate most of those same representatives to their high position. The stability of our democracy is threatened by the allied forces of vice and ignorance, and by them alone. Civil courage is the desileratum of this epoch. The State demands as high a morality as the Church. It is the complex whole of which by them along the State demands as high a morally as the Church. It is the complex whole of which other institutions are but parts. Democracy is organic. Each individual is a living cell in this body politic. In proportion as they perform their duties toward the State and are themselves morally healthy will she be sound. Her growth, her power, her life, even, depend entirely upon them. She has no existence of her own apart from them.

M. R. F. Saratoga Springs, N. Y., March 9, 1895.

THE NEED OF HOME MISSIONS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: The writer was greatly surprised by the character of the editorial which appeared in last Friday's Issue of The Tribune, entitled "The President's Ideas of the West," and most sincerely deplores the finwarranted injustice manifested there-in. It is to be regretted, not only because it is unfair to the Chief Executive, but, moreover, because it positively wrongs all the Christian denominations which are engaged in home mission workdenominations that are continually presenting the urgent needs and claims of the new Western settle ments for the prayerful and financial consideration of their communicants, whea, according to the editorial, no such needs exist.

Strange, is it not, that upon the strength of such conditions the Presbyterian Church alone should, for their amelioration, yearly devote thousands of dollars? Strange, that educated men and womer dollars? Strange, that educated men and women should give the best years of their lives to the work of thwarting the rulmous rapacity of the gambling-house and the dram shop, which are among the first to enter the new settlements? Strange, that they should devote their energies to establishing and maintaining Christian Church privileges and fellowship for such communities as have severed old Christian associations and emigrated to the West, which otherwise would be deprived of them? Strange, is it not, since, according to the editorial, the conditions are mere figments, or something worse?

Would the editorial have us believe that the missionaries and their respective denominations are guilty either of incapacity for seeing facts in their true aspect, or of colo ang them to suit their own ends—that, in a word, they are either a set of fools or a pack of knaves? Shall we conclude that a generous, self-sacrificing Christianity is being outrageously "bunceed" out of her sympathy and money as well?

Surely, in view of the facts, which can readily be ascertained, the editorial, to say the least, is deplorably unjust and an affront to the intelligence and the sincerity of Christendom.

LOUIS O. ROTENBACH.

Stony Point, N. Y., March 10, 1886.

MONEY FOR WORK AMONG THE NEGROES To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: You were kind enough to publish in your is sue of February 16 a sympathetic notice of our humble educational work among my young brothers and sisters of the colored race, at Maysville, S. C., and to mention the urgent need of assistance which brought me to New-York. I thank you very sincerely on behalf of the teachers and friends of the institution. We could do so much for the rising generation in our section, if we could only secure the \$1,500 which is the condition made by the gentleman who will give us the land as a site for a new building. May I trespass on your kindness so far as to ask you to acknowledge the following sums, amounting in all to 318, which have been sent me in response to your appeal;

M. D. H. S., \$5; Miss Ella H. Johnson, \$1; F. W. brothers and sisters of the colored race, at Mays

## "ASSIGNEE'S SALE" At Public Auction of DIAMONDS, WATCHES, and JEWELRY, John H. French, Auctionen,

WILL CONTINUE TO SELL MONDAY MARCH 16TH, AND FOLLOWING DAYS COMMENCING AT

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ALL GOODS CAN BE EXAMINED DAILY BETWEEN 9 AND 12 A. M. SALE POSITIVELY WITHOUT RESERVE

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### REMOVAL SALE,

we would not have so much as a Chamber Set left us on the 1st of May. "Bargains" don't express it,

DEGRAAF& TAYLOR

47 and 49 West 14th St.



FOR SALE BY ALL RELIABLE DEALERS.

Guiteau, \$5; Miss Lizzie Peacock, \$1; Miss S. C. Mason, \$1; Mrs. N. G. Hine, \$5.

No. 64 Bible House, New-York, Feb. 25, 1896. THE WORK OF A CHARITABLE SOCIETY. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: It has been brought to my notice that the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor has been subjected to unfavorable criticisms on the ground that the immediate necessities of the very poor have been neglected, while the various plans of indirect philanthropy have been extended. Will you allow me to state through your columns that the criticisms are absolutely unfounded in fact? It is true that the association has organized and put in motion the Committee on the Cultivation of Vacant Lots, the Committee for the Promotion of Agriculture in New-York State and the Cammittee on Improved Housins. In each case the association merely acted in the role of the promoter, and the expenses of the three enterprises have been previous from outside sources.

While, therefore, the association is in great need of contributions for its relief work, it is not because its funds have been diverted to the support of the above-mentioned movements.

WILLIAM H. TOLMAN.

General Agent of the Associatiog New-York, March 11, 1895. Association for Improving the Condition of the

AID GIVEN BY STEAMSHIPS.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: For an article in The Tribune of March

DELAYED BY CHANGES.

ling in the summer, as many changes in the plans were made, owing to the removal of the old court-room and other things which were gradually taken out as the apportionment of room was settled among the various departments. It was further found that much more work them was a first anticipated when the estimate was much would be pacessary, and despite the offorts to reduce this to the smallest practical amount commensurate with the require-ments and appearance of even a first-class office building, the resulting estimates on the plans and

specifications proved to be considerably in excess of the available appropriation. As a consequence,

ACCEPTED DESIGN FOR NEW CITY HALL CUPOLA.

another delay occurred, extending through nearly two months, in which every effort was made to adjust the various estimates ro as to cerry out the most essential parts of the work-efforts which were hampered by opposition to any plan of im-provement which did not include a cupola,

IRON AND COPPER IDEA REJECTED.

Various suggestions were made as to creeting a cheap cupola in iron and copper, which were, how-ever, finally rejected on the representation of the architects that such a construction would be both unsultable and undignified in this building, which, ore everything, bears the character of simplicity and even severity, qualities not properly expressed

Contracts were, however, finally awarded about first of the year for the amount at the disposal of the commissioners, which included the fireproof-ing of the interior of the building, a new roof, new staircases, elevator and the remodelling of some of

Work was begun immediately, and is now proceeding rapidly. A move has been made to obtain another appro-priation, which will enable the city to proceed with at least a part of the remainder of the work. This work includes in the interior the remodelling of the rotunda and the principal staircase, with new mar-ble floors and suitable decorations for this important entrance, ventilating, heating and lighting plants, and the steel work necessary to carry the cupola; and for the exterior a marble balustrade and the cupola with clock and bell, shown in the fl-

lustration, which is taken from the architects

A HANDSOME BUILDING. The completion of this work will give to Brooklyn a handsome fireproof municipal building which, from its central position, approached on all sides by thoroughfares, will make it more than ever a admark from which the citizens may take the

bearings as they certainly will take their time. The extensive repairs will make it practically a new building from the second story up when the contractor, John J. Cashman, will have completed his work. Although workmen swarm in and out of the building, filling it daily with dust and debris, the inconvenience is viewed complacently by the small army of city officials and employes in antici-If the work goes on without interruption, certain that on account of an insufficiency of ap-gropriation, the work will necessarily be extended the greater part of a year, so that alterations will not be entirely finished much before next May. The contract price for the chariges was \$170,000 for the general work and \$57,000 more for the iron work

DISPOSAL OF DEPARTMENTS occupy the space formerly utilized for Judge Neu's courtroom fronting on Fulton-st., and taking in part of what is now the rotunds. It will be connected by a spiral staircase with the third story, where a

d to a gallery over which will be a large skylight, thus giving an excellent light throughout The present committee-rooms of the counsel cham-ber on the second floor will be entirely changed. The improvement contemplates three rooms of larger proportions. They will be separated by fire-

The third story has heretofore been practically waste room, the only occupant being the janitor. Workmen are at present engaged in laying an iron girder and fireproof tile floor. The entire third girder and fireproof tile floor. The entire third story, when completed, with the exception of the corner to be occupied by the Law Department, will be devoted to the Building Department. As soon as the flooring is laid, the roof will be replaced by iron, with about twenty ventilators. Mr. Cashman said yesterday that he could be ready for this work about May, but this will depend largely upon the will of the Aldermen, for the reason that it will be necessary to remove the present ceiling in the Council Chamber and replace it by a light iron covering suspended from the roof. This work will take at least a month, and in the mean time the Aldermen will be forced either to adjourn or find quarters elsewhere.

The decorations of the remodelled apartments will be thoroughly artistic and as disasting the contents.

will be forced either to adjourn of the quarters elsewhere. The decorations of the remodelled apartments will be thoroughly artistic and as durable as money and skill can make them. The celling design of the Council Chamber will be restored and the entire from retouched. The rommittee-rooms will be finished in oak, and the floors tiled, instead of the totally inadequate tolict-room space as at present, new rooms will be added, special attention being paid to the sanitary arrangements and artistic finish. The Building Department's rooms will be equally well finished. On the ground floor the columns will be fireproof, and new cornices will be added throughout.

#### A NEW CYCLIST WEEKLY.

Long Island Cyclist" is a new journal published in Brooklyn every Saturday and devoted to the wheeling interests of Brooklyn and Long Island. It was first issued on March 7. Yesterday's num-It was not reserve to see the property of the printed reading matter, interesting to bicyclists, including plenty of that sort of local news which ought to make the new journal acceptable to Brook-lyn wheelmer. It is asserted for "The Long Island Cyclist" that it is the only paper in Long Island de-voted exclusively to cycling news. It makes a feat-ure of bleycling club news and gossip, says good words for good roads, strikes for legislation favor-ing bleycle riders, and believes that every rider should join the L. A. W. or Good Roads Association.

lution in the State of New-York, 1896, this same Asa Bird Gardiner gives his credentials. Therein he claims the following; viz.: 1. Reuben Willard. 2. Othaniel Gardiner. 2. Joseph Van Rosenberg. Now, it is obvious that a man of the patronymic of either No. 1 or No. 3 could not be lineal in each generation, since the generation of the alleged services. Or, could it have been by a change of name? The above Willard was only a second lieutenant and so not a field officer, and the above Van Rosenberg was only a sergeant, and so, certainly, not a field officer.

As to No. 2, Othaniel Gardiner. I do not find him on Mr. Heltman's lists of officers of the Revolutionary Army at all? But, taking the aforesaid Year Book as authority, malgre Mr. Heitman's "Records," he, Othaniel, also is only a first lieutenant, and so not, in the Cincinnati sense, a field officer.

I beg to submit the matter to you as writing for

nformation merely. IIENRY CLARK GARDINER. 119 West 93d-st., New-York, March 11, 1896. ules which regulate admissions to the Society of the Cincinnati. These rules are administered with some privacy and appear to be subject, to to local interpretation. The constitution of the order says: "All the officers of the American Army, as well as those who have resigned with honor after three years' service in the capacity of officers, or who have been de-ranged by the resolutions of Congress upon the several reforms of the Army, or those who shall have continued to the end of the war, have the right to become parties to this institution." Apparently, this language is broad enough to cover any officer who held a commission, even by brevet. This covers one point referred to by our correspondent. The "eldest male posterity" was also made eligible to membership, the principle of strict order of primogeniture being thus established. In the natural course of events, it the rule of admitting only the "eldest male posterity" is adhered to, the Cincinnati organization is likely in the course of time to become extinct. Efforts have been made in recent years to broaden the basis of admission, and The Tellune is under the very strong impression that "collaterals" are now admitted to this ancient society in some, if not all, of the States, the practice of the Cincinnati in that respect being, in fact, the origin of the admission of "collaterals" to the Sons of the Revolution, against which so much objection has been made by other hereditary societies. Major Gardiner's title to membership in the Cincinnati has long been the subject of discussion in the various societies, but we imagine that no one is competent to pass upon that, except his own State society or the General Society. It is said that the matter is to be brought up at the coming triennial meeting. One would naturally suppose that in order to put an end to the discussion of the subject, Major Gardiner would demand an examination by the

#### General Society.-Ed.]

OLD AGE AND THE PRESIDENCY. To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I don't suppose any serious-minded person takes Mr. Morton's nomination much to heart. It is evidently a "bluff" to facilitate a bargain at St. Louis. Were it within the possibilities to expect such a coup d'état the Republican majorities at the polls next November would not figure quite so handsomely as it is predicted. Republican success seems assured, no matter who leads the war-ring hosts, bu' all the more reason for elevating the best man to the high office which a crowd of inferior men covet for personal or partisan advantage. It may be that if we ransack history we will find precedent for intrusting the leadership of a Nation to an old man. From Moses, who at eighty ied the conquering though mutinous peo-ple of Israel, to Gladstone, who at eighty was not deemed incapacitated for the administration of England's interests, there have been not a few aged men whose services the State could not afford to lose on account of the mere accident of age. It is, indeed, better to err on the side of sentility than on that of juvenility and wreck a kingdom

But ransack American history and the precedent. at least so far as the Presidential office is con-cerned, is not favorable to seating an old man in the Executive chair. Washington was fifty-seven when he was first elected to the Presidency; Adams was sixty-one when he was chosen President; Jefferson, fifty-seven; Madison, fifty-seven; Monroe, ferson, fifty-seven; Madison, fifty-seven; Monroe, fifty-eight; J. Q. Adams, fifty-seven; Jackson, sixty-one; Van Buren, fifty-four; William H. Harrison, sixty-seven; Tyler, fifty; Polk, forty-nine; Taylor, sixty-four; Filimore, forty-nine; Pierce, forty-eight; Buchanan, sixty-five; Lincoln, fifty-one; Johnson, fifty-six; Grant, forty-six; Hayes, fifty-four; Garfield, forty-nine; Arthur, sixty; Cleveland, four; Garfield, forty-nine; Arthur, sixty; Cleveland, forty-seven, and Benjamin Harrison, fifty-five, four; seven, and benjamin Harrison, fifty-five, four; seven, and belgamin Harrison, fifty-five, four; seven, and benjamin Harrison, fifty-five, four; seven, and benjamin Harrison, fifty-five, four; seven, and benjamin Harrison, fity-five four; sixty-five four; sixty-f

until proven guilty.

No legal principle has been more generally sanc-

But Referee Godkin's decision is the reverse of

tailty of the murder of his tentator.

The Court of Appeals sustained the contention of

To the Editor of The Tribune.

WHAT THE SPANISH BOYCOTT MEANS. To the Editor of The Tribune.

Brooklyn, Feb. 26, 1896.